

Ashburton District Council

AGENDA

Notice of Meeting:

A meeting of the Ashburton District Council will be held on:

Date: Tuesday 31 October 2023

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber

Membership

Mayor	Neil Brown
Deputy Mayor	Liz McMillan
Members	Leen Braam
	Carolyn Cameron
	Russell Ellis
	Phill Hooper
	Lynette Lovett
	Rob Mackle
	Tony Todd
	Richard Wilson

Meeting Timetable

Time	Item
1.00pm	Council meeting commences
2.15pm	CDEM presentation – Richard Ball, Canterbury Group Recovery Manager, ECan
2.55pm	Welcome to new staff

1 Apologies

2 Extraordinary Business

3 Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant and to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.

Minutes

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11	Affordable Water Reform – Entity I (<i>uplift matter from 25/07</i>)	44
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Business Transacted with the Public Excluded

14	Council 18/10/23	PE 1
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library & Civic Centre PCG 10/10/23 Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities • Methven Community Board 16/10/23 Section 7(2)(h) Protection privacy natural persons 	
	[Now in open meeting]	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sale of Ashburton Library site 	

4. Council Minutes – 18 October 2023

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 18 October 2023, commencing at 1pm in the Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton.

Present

His Worship the Mayor, Neil Brown; Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan; Councillors Leen Braam, Carolyn Cameron, Russell Ellis, Lynette Lovett, Tony Todd and Richard Wilson.

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Toni Durham (GM Democracy & Engagement), Leanne Macdonald (GM Business Support), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure & Open Spaces), Sarah Mosley (GM People & Facilities), Janice McKay (Communications Manager) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Mark Low (Strategy & Policy Manager), Femke van der Valk (Policy Advisory), Ian Hyde (Planning Manager), Tania Paddock (Legal Counsel) and Renee Julius (Property Manager).

1 Apologies

Crs Phill Hooper and Rob Mackle

Sustained

2 Extraordinary Business

Nil.

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 4/10/23

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 4 October 2023, be taken as read and confirmed.

McMillan/Lovett

Carried

5 Methven Community Board – 16/10/23

That Council receives the minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on 16 October 2023.

Cameron/Todd

Carried

- **2024 Community Board meetings**

The Methven Community Board has chosen to retain a schedule of eight meetings in the 2024 year. Council's draft meeting calendar has been amended to reflect 'Option 1' from the Board's report.

That the Methven Community Board meeting dates for 2024, as scheduled in Option 1, be confirmed; and that Board meetings continue to be held on Mondays with a 9am start time.

McMillan/Braam

Carried

6 Creative Communities Grants – Round 1 2023/24

That the Council receives the minutes of the Creative Community Fund Assessment Committee meeting held on 22 September 2023.

Braam/Todd Carried

7 Draft Biodiversity Strategy for Public Consultation

That Council approves the Biodiversity Strategy for public consultation from 23 October to 26 November 2023.

McMillan/Lovett Carried

8 Representation Review 2023-2025

1. **That** Council receives the report.
2. **That** Council approves the proposed approach to the 2023 Representation Review, which includes the following elements:
 - a) Pre-engagement completed by end of December 2023
 - b) Initial proposal adopted by Council for consultation by end of April 2024
 - c) Final proposal notified by end of July 2024.

Braam/Cameron Carried

9 2024 Schedule of Council meetings

That Council adopts the 2024 schedule of Council and Methven Community Board meetings.

McMillan/Todd Carried

10 Financial Reports

Clarification was sought on the \$1.156M borrowings for the roading activity.

Post meeting note: this relates to flood money, a portion of which will be reimbursed by Waka Kotahi.

That Council receives the financial variance report for August 2023.

Cameron/Braam Carried

11 Mayor’s Report

• **Diwali**

It was reported that the Diwali event was cancelled on 14 October, due to the wind conditions. An alternative date is to be advised.

That Council receives the Mayor’s report.

Mayor/Todd Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded – 1.32pm

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – the general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:
12	Council 4/10/23	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EANC proposal • EANC membership • People & Capability annual report • Lake Hood management [Now in open meeting] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community grants (Round 2) • Contract ROAD0298 2023-25 • ACL Directors' fees 	Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(a) Section 7(2)(h)	Protection of privacy natural persons Commercial activities Protection of privacy natural persons Commercial activities
13	Library & Civic Centre PCG 10/10/23	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
14	Sale of Council Land	Section 7(2)(g)	Maintain legal professional privilege
15	Methven Community Board 16/10/23 - Discretionary grant applications	Section 7(2)(a)	Protection of privacy of natural persons

Braam/Todd

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

- **Sale of Ashburton Library site**

1. **That** Council accepts the recommendation in The Property Group report dated 3 October 2023 that the surplus land contained within the current Ashburton Library site in Record of Title CB47A/1217 ("the Land") is exempt from offer back to the former owner under section 40(2)(a) and 40(2)(b) of the Public Works Act 1981.
2. **That** Council directs the Chief Executive to approve and sign The Property Group report.

Braam/Todd

Carried

The meeting concluded at 2.10pm.

Confirmed 31 October 2023

MAYOR

5. *Annual Report Adoption*

Author	<i>Emily Reed, Corporate Planner</i>
Activity Manager	<i>Mark Low, Strategy & Policy Manager</i> <i>Erin Register; Finance Manager</i>
Executive Team Member	<i>Toni Durham, GM Democracy & Engagement</i> <i>Leanne Macdonald, GM Business Support</i>

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to recommend the adoption of the Annual Report for 2022/23.
- Audit New Zealand have audited this report and at the time of writing this report, it is anticipated that an unqualified Audit opinion will be issued. The opinion will be provided to Council as soon as it is received.

Recommendation

1. **That** Council adopts the 2022/23 Annual Report for Ashburton District Council.

Attachment

Appendix 1 2022/23 Annual Report

Background

1. Every year Council prepares an Annual Report.
2. The 2022/23 draft Annual Report shows how Council performed (including both financial and non-financial information) against the targets outlined in Year 2 of the 2021-31 Long-Term Plan. This includes the projects Council has progressed during the year, highlights and issues.
3. Council's 2022/23 Annual Report has been audited by Audit New Zealand and officers anticipate an unqualified audit opinion from Audit New Zealand.
4. An unqualified Audit opinion means that Audit New Zealand are satisfied that the 2022/23 Annual Report and summary documents fairly represent the Council and Group's financial position as at 30 June 2023, and the results of its operations and cash-flow.
5. The Council is required to adopt an Annual Report by 31 October 2023.

Options analysis

Option 1 – Adopt the annual report (recommended option)

6. Council is required to adopt an Annual Report by 31 October 2023. Officers recommend that the Annual Report is adopted by the Council, otherwise Council will breach this statutory deadline.

Advantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annual Report adopted on-time to statutory timeframes	Disadvantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No disadvantages
Risks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No foreseen risks.	

Option 2 – Do not adopt the draft Annual Report

7. Council could decide not to adopt the Annual Report, however, this would put Council in breach of its requirements under the Local Government Act 2002.

Advantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No advantages	Disadvantages: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Breach of statutory timeframes for adoption
Risks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reputational risk of Council not appearing to have its house in order	

Legal/policy implications

Legislation

8. Section 98 of the Local Government Act, 2002 requires Council to prepare and adopt an Annual Report within four months of the end of each financial year. Council's end of year is 30 June, therefore, the Council's Annual Report is required to be adopted by the end of October.

Strategic alignment

9. The Annual Report provides transparency with the community as to our achievement towards all four community outcomes and well-beings.

Well-being		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this well-being
Economic	✓	The Annual Report provides transparency with how each activity of Council contributes towards each of the well-beings.
Environmental	✓	
Cultural	✓	
Social	✓	

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	The cost of auditing the Annual Report is budgeted for in the LTP Year 2.
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes
Where is the funding coming from?	Within existing budgets.
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Reviewed by Finance	<i>Erin Register; Finance Manager</i>

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Medium – not significant
Rationale for selecting level of significance	N/A
Level of engagement selected	Officers will inform the community of the adoption of the Annual Report by Council.
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	There is no opportunity to consult on the Annual Report as it represents a report on Council's performance for the financial year 2022/23.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	<i>Mark Low, Strategy & Policy Manager</i>

6. Submission on the Emergency Management Bill

Authors	<i>Richard Mabon, Senior Policy Advisor</i> <i>Jim Henderson, Emergency Management Officer</i>
Activity Manager	<i>Rick Catchpole, Environmental Monitoring Manager</i>
Executive Team Member	<i>Jane Donaldson, Group Manager, Compliance & Development</i>

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to present a draft submission to the Governance & Administration Select Committee on the *Emergency Management Bill* (“the Bill”).
- The Bill aims to:
 - 1.1 clarify the roles and responsibility across the emergency management sector
 - 1.2 recognise and enhance the role of Māori in emergency management
 - 1.3 provide outcomes for communities disproportionately affected by emergencies
 - 1.4 enhance the resilience and accountability of critical infrastructure
 - 1.5 modernise the legislative and regulatory framework.
- The draft submission restates Council’s views on some elements of the Bill. These views were previously expressed in a submission on 11 February 2022 to the *Modernising the Emergency Management Framework discussion document* and a submission on 8 August 2023 to the *Strengthening the resilience of Aotearoa New Zealand’s critical infrastructure system discussion document*.
- The draft submission was reviewed in a workshop held on 11 October 2023. The draft submission has been updated for feedback from elected members at that Workshop.

Recommendation

- 1. That** Council approve the draft submission on the Emergency Management Bill and direct the Chief Executive to lodge the submission with the Governance & Administration Select Committee.

Attachment

Appendix 1 Draft Submission on the Emergency Management Bill

Background

The current situation

1. Parliament's Governance and Administration Select Committee (“the Select Committee”) has invited public submissions on the Emergency Management Bill. Submissions close on 3 November 2023.
2. The Emergency Management Bill would replace the Civil Defence Emergency Act 2002 which provides powers for managing emergencies at local, regional, and national levels. The Bill aims to:
 - clarify the roles and responsibility across the emergency management sector
 - recognise and enhance the role of Māori in emergency management
 - provide outcomes for communities that are disproportionately affected by emergencies
 - enhance the resilience and accountability of critical infrastructure
 - modernise the legislative and regulatory framework.
3. Officers (including our Civil Defence Controllers) who work in or manage emergency management in Ashburton District have prepared a draft submission.
4. The draft submission restates Council's views on some elements of the Bill. These views were previously expressed in a submission on 11 February 2022 to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) on the Modernising the Emergency Management Framework discussion document and a submission on 8 August 2023 to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet on the Strengthening the resilience of Aotearoa New Zealand's critical infrastructure system discussion document.
5. Both submissions were formally adopted by the Council of the time.
6. The draft submission was reviewed in a workshop held on 11 October 2023. The draft submission has been updated for feedback from elected members at that Workshop.
7. The updated paragraphs are paragraphs 5, 7, 11, 12 and 32.

Options analysis

Option one – Approve and submit the draft submission.

8. This option would see Council officers lodge the appended submission to the Select Committee. This option is **RECOMMENDED**.

<p>Advantages: The proposed submission is a draft and ready to be lodged, meaning it will meet deadlines.</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Current draft may not accurately reflect elected members' position.</p>
<p>Risks: This is low risk as Council will be able to debate any changes proposed by elected members and pursue Option two if preferred.</p>	

Option two – Amend and submit the draft submission.

9. This option would see Council approve an amended version of the submission for lodging with the Select Committee.

<p>Advantages: Officers recognise that useful points of improvement often arise from elected member input and this option may be preferred for those reasons.</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Fundamental amendments will require a re-write of the draft submission</p>
<p>Risks: Fundamental amendment means a higher risk that the submission is unable to be lodged on-time.</p>	

Option three – make no submission

10. This option is not recommended. Council may decide to stay silent and not make a submission on the Bill.

<p>Advantages: Nil.</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Council's voice is not heard by the Select Committee.</p>
<p>Risks: Reputational – This would result in Council missing an opportunity to express the views of the District on an issue of national importance.</p>	

Legal/policy implications

11. The lodging of a submission does not breach or trigger any statutory or legal duty of the Council.

Climate change

12. Improvements to the emergency management framework may assist Council and community to respond to emergency events that are made worse by climate change.

Strategic alignment

13. The recommendation relates to Council’s community outcomes of:

- Residents are included and have a voice.
- A district of great spaces and places.
- A prosperous economy based on innovation and opportunity.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	An improved emergency management framework will help communities to be better prepared for emergency events and have a more effective response and recovery.
Environmental	✗	
Cultural	✓	An improved emergency management framework will enable more input from iwi and Māori and from disproportionately disadvantaged persons and groups.
Social	✓	An improved emergency management framework will keep the community safer in an emergency event and will be more inclusive.

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	Officer resource in preparing this submission. This has been met from within existing operating budgets.
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes
Where is the funding coming from?	Strategy & Policy
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Reviewed by Finance	Erin Register, Finance Manager

Significance and engagement assessment

The approval of this submission is not a matter of high significance.

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low
Rationale for selecting level of significance	Not applicable.
Level of engagement selected	Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	The community will be informed of Council's submission through usual channels.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low, Strategy & Policy Manager

Submission



On the Emergency Management Bill

PREPARED BY: Ashburton District Council SUBMITTED TO: Governance and Administration Select
PO Box 94 Committee
ASHBURTON 7774

Contact: Mayor Neil Brown *via email to:*
mayor@adc.govt.nz ga@parliament.govt.nz

1. Ashburton District Council (Council) welcomes the opportunity to submit feedback on the **Emergency Management Bill**. This submission has been prepared by Council Civil Defence Controllers and officers and adopted by Council at its meeting on 31 October 2023.
2. Ashburton District (the District) is located in the middle of Canterbury, an hour's drive south of Christchurch and an hour's drive north of Timaru. More than 36,300¹ residents live in our district. Approximately 50% of our residents live in the main town of Ashburton, with the rest of our residents living rurally or in smaller towns or villages across the district.
3. This submission restates Council's views on some elements of the Bill. These views were previously expressed in a submission on 11 February 2022 to the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) on the *Modernising the Emergency Management Framework* discussion document and a submission on 8 August 2023 to the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet on the *Strengthening the resilience of Aotearoa New Zealand's critical infrastructure system* discussion document.

Key points

4. We are very supportive of the Bill. While it is not a fundamental transformation of the emergency management sector, it is a positive contribution to improving the sector. At a time when Government plans major reforms in resource management and the delivery of water services, the more incremental approach taken here is welcomed.
5. We note and welcome the ongoing mahi on critical infrastructure. Regardless of where communities are located and the infrastructure that meets their needs, every community has their points of vulnerability to natural hazards. We have seen this in Ashburton, when flood damage to the State Highway 1 bridge highlighted the strategic value of that infrastructure ensuring connectivity down the east coast of Te Waipounamu/ South Island. It also underlined the importance of developing a second bridge to help maintain that connectivity.

¹ Statistics New Zealand Estimated Population 30 June 2022

6. We commend Government's intention to advancing the work on critical infrastructure. We are sure that events in Auckland, Coromandel, Gisborne and Hawkes Bay, as well as in Ashburton, will keep this work a close focus for Parliament's attention.
7. We finally commend the Bill for its emphasis on recognising the role of iwi and Māori as partners under Te Tiriti and as contributors to the emergency management system. In Ashburton District, the Hakatere Marae and the community which operates the Marae are an important asset for local preparedness and response, as is our relationship with Te Runaka o Arowhenua.

Local Context

8. Hakatere/ Ashburton sits in the middle of the Canterbury Plains, between the Rakaia River to our north, the Rakitata River to our south, the Southern Alps to our West and the Pacific Ocean to our east.
9. Our principal town is bisected by the Hakatere/Ashburton River. Like many parts of New Zealand, we are vulnerable to a range of hazards including, but not limited to fire, flooding, earthquake, land movement, pandemic and storms. We also serve our community through our Emergency Management activity where we are committed to ensuring the preparedness, resilience and recovery of our residents before, during and after emergencies.
10. This work sees us work closely with other emergency management and lifeline utility partners including emergency services of FENZ, Police and St Johns Ambulance, our local lines company EA Networks, telecommunications providers, Waka Kotahi, Environment Canterbury, our health sector including the Ashburton Hospital and general practitioners.
11. In 2021 we experienced severe flooding in our district when record flows in the Hakatere/Ashburton River resulted in significant flooding of farmland and the slumping of a pier on the Ashburton Bridge causing its temporary closure. This severed connections in Te Waipounamu/ South Island, ground traffic flows to a halt and heightened concerns about just how vulnerable we are to the loss of infrastructure that we assume will always be there.
12. This vulnerability is extended to the wider Waitaha/Canterbury environment, with multiple large, braided rivers crossed by significant bridges, all of which are at risk from natural hazards such as serious flooding events or earthquakes. Ashburton District is especially vulnerable with the main township split by one such river, but also its boundaries defined by two major braided rivers, the Rakitata and Rakaia. While inland routes and bridges provide some additional access, State Highway One through Canterbury forms the artery along which much of the South Island's trade, visitor tourism and travel flows.
13. In 2011 a number of Ashburton buildings were affected by the Christchurch earthquake, and, like many New Zealanders, we understand that we are overdue for AF8. In 2020 and 2021, alongside all New Zealanders, we experienced the Covid-19 pandemic.
14. Through this varied mahi and experiences, we are increasingly aware and concerned for ensuring the emergency management system and our critical infrastructure can meet current and future needs.

Clarifying roles and responsibilities across the emergency management system

15. This part of our submission addresses the following matters:
- a. Clarifying the roles and responsibilities of Emergency Management Committees and local authorities (Clauses 29 and 37)
 - b. Clarifying the administering authority process (Clause 35)
 - c. Clarifying the roles of the Chief Executive of NEMA and Director of Emergency management (Clause 5)
 - d. Confirming the roles of lead and support agencies (Clause 146)
 - e. Publication of Emergency Committee Plans (Clause 72(2))
 - f. Ambulance services (Clauses 5 and 33(1))
16. We support all these clauses in the Bill and concur that they are practical improvements to ensure the system can meet current and future needs.

Local and regional responsibilities

17. We strongly support the retention of existing key local and regional roles and responsibilities. Our first reason for supporting this aspect of the Bill is that it retains a focus on local activity and a place for local delivery. We believe that this is absolutely critical for any emergency management system. In our experience, effective emergency management requires:
- a. community risk awareness,
 - b. system performance and accountability,
 - c. reducing the impacts of emergencies and
 - d. flexibility to adapt to emergencies.
18. All these outcomes are founded on strong local knowledge of risks and communities and working relationships built on trust and mutual understanding between CDEM and local community leaders and groups. These elements are not created overnight and are nigh impossible to build, maintain and develop from outside the community itself.
19. Local resourcing for CDEM is funded from local ratepayers based on decisions of locally elected Mayors and councillors. This gives local people “skin in the game” at a community and political level and creates a level of local accountability. We think this is a strength of the current system and another reason to support the Bill.
20. We understand that resourcing for capacity and capability is challenging for small authorities and that some small authorities may need an infusion of external resource to achieve specific levels of service. We do not believe that 100% regional funding would support the local ownership that comes from “skin in the game”, even if some smaller communities need funding support.
21. Our experience means that we see considerable value in local planning, and we fully support alignment with Emergency Committee plans. We believe we have already made substantial

progress in Canterbury toward greater alignment. We see this as beneficial and acknowledge there is still opportunity for improvement.

Lead and support agencies

22. We support the proposal in the Bill to allow roles and responsibilities to be set out in secondary legislation. We support efforts to improve clarity of the definitions, roles and responsibilities of lead agencies and support agencies. In past flood recovery operations, we encountered issues with a support agency whose representatives did not understand their role.
23. In drafting the regulations for lead and support agencies, it is essential that the responsibilities are matched to the capabilities of the agency. Widespread consultation with all affected organisations will help to identify and resolve areas of potential confusion and conflict. This must be thorough, and it must precede the obligations under Clause 146(3) of the Bill that require the Minister to consult other relevant Ministers and public service agency chief executives.

Consulting on Emergency Committee Plans

24. We are comfortable with the provisions of Clause 75 and 76 of the Bill. These consultation provisions reflect what we might have expected had Government chosen to reflect the existing approach to consultation reflected in the Local Government Act 2002 as it has evolved over more than 20 years of practice in the sector.

Publication of Emergency Committee Plans

25. We support the requirement to publish the Emergency Committee Plans to the Internet. The Canterbury CDEM Group Plan is already published on the Group website, and almost every council publishes a range of public documents to its own website.
26. We understand that the Director's Guidelines (referred to in clause 74) will be the instrument by which issues such as material incorporated by reference will be addressed. We recommend that, in developing those Guidelines, the Director explores Part 3, Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991 and/or schedule 12 of the Natural and Built Environment Act, both of which contain provisions which deal with the incorporation of documents by reference into plans.

Ambulance services

27. We support the new definition of 'emergency services' to include 'ambulance services'. We consider the historic failure to define Ambulance services as an emergency service is a legislative oversight and that fixing this oversight is a "no-brainer". Ambulance Services are already heavily integrated into CDEM activities. We likewise support the proposal in Clause 33 enabling ambulance services to be represented on the Emergency Management Co-ordinating Executive.

Recognising, enhancing and valuing Māori participation in emergency management

28. This part of our submission addresses the following matters:

- a. Māori members on Emergency Management Committees and Co-ordinating Executive (Clauses 26, 33 and 144)
- b. National Māori Emergency Management Advisory Group (Clause 20 and 21)
- c. Te Tiriti o Waitangi Clause (Clause 5)
- d. Emergency Management Committees are not a Person Controlling a Business Undertaking (PCBU) (Clause 32)
- e. Emergency Management Committees to recognise and plan for the needs and contribution of Māori (Clause 29(1))
- f. Inclusion of Māori in the National Emergency Plan (Clause 67(1))
- g. Authority to reimburse iwi and Māori organisations (Clause 149)

29. We support all these clauses in the Bill and concur that they are practical improvements to ensure the system can meet current and future needs. We recognise also that these improvements honours Te Tiriti and unifies community by working closer together in a system designed to work for all.

30. Specific comments on the detail of some aspects are addressed in the following paragraphs.

Māori members on Emergency Management Committees and Co-ordinating Executive/EMCs are not a PCBU.

31. The proposed membership solution is appropriate for Canterbury, where we already have a Kāi Tahu representative at the CEG. In Canterbury, there is one large iwi, Ngāi Tahu. This is not the case in many other regions, and proposed flexibility amongst the number of iwi and Māori representatives may enable regionally appropriate alternatives.

32. Iwi and Māori representatives (and to some extent the organisations they represent) need the time and resources to be able to do their roles effectively. Our local experience in Ashburton has been that Te Runaka o Arowhenua (which has relationships with at least four territorial authorities and one regional council) is stretched to provide input into the growing range of engagements that are expected with local government. The ever-growing expectations that we will grow closer as treaty partners requires time and resources to be devoted to learning, to building relationships, and creating an environment of mutual respect and understanding on both sides of the relationship.

33. In Emergency Management, resourcing needs to start at the Emergency Committee level with support for Māori and iwi members of the Emergency Committee and the Co-ordinating Executive, but resources also need to be increased at local levels to ensure local iwi and Māori participation in emergency management. We support, in the strongest possible terms, the proposal to fund Emergency Committee representation of iwi and Māori from Central Government.

34. We also support the even-handedness implicit in not treating Emergency Management Committees as a PCBU.
35. Support needs to be provided for Iwi and Māori members participating in Civil Defence to be adequately trained and informed to undertake these roles, just as local authority members do. Equally, more training in biculturalism, tikanga Māori, and Māori experiences and perspectives of emergency management will benefit local authority members.

National Māori Emergency Management Advisory Group

36. In 2022 we submitted to NEMA that it establishes the Māori Emergency Management Advisory Group (MEMAG) in advance of legislation, rather than after the Bill becomes law. We likened it to the establishment of the Climate Change Commission which was preceded by an Interim Commission. In our proposal, the MEMAG could already be working on ways and means that the sector can more effectively enable Māori and iwi participation and enable change to happen more quickly and more smoothly. The fact that this proposal, and the recognition of ambulance services as emergency services, have required the long and slow process of legislative reform serves to underline the need for a more responsive system.

Recognising and planning for the needs and contribution of iwi and Māori/ Inclusion of Māori in the national emergency management plan

37. We support the proposals in clause 29 of the Bill which expressly recognise and require plans to address the needs and contribution of iwi and Māori. Emergency management works best when it addresses and responds to the needs of everyone and brings to the table the resources of the whole community. These provisions do that while supporting principles of Te Tiriti.
38. Likewise, we support the proposals in clause 67 of the Bill as they apply to the national emergency management plan.

Increasing the resilience of critical infrastructure

39. This part of our submission addresses the following matters:
 - a. Updating terminology and definition (Clause 5)
 - b. Specifying critical infrastructure sector and entities (Clauses 50 and 51)
 - c. Requirement for critical infrastructure entities to develop response plans (Clause 54(1))
 - d. Critical infrastructure planning emergency levels of service (Clause 57)
 - e. Critical infrastructure annual compliance reporting.
40. We support the direction of travel represented by these clauses in the Bill. We note that this is part of a larger body of work on critical infrastructure resilience.
41. We firmly agree on the need to adapt our approach to critical infrastructure regulation, to create a more secure platform for sustainable, inclusive, and productive growth in the future, and an improved capability to deal with and recover from natural disasters. We recognise that this work will likely have consequences for investment in infrastructure, and in the systems by which the resilience of our infrastructure is assessed, reported on, and improved. We note

that these costs will be felt by all New Zealanders. By the same token, all New Zealanders will bear the costs of failing to create a more resilient infrastructure base. With good judgement and careful management, we can ensure that the benefits of improvement exceed the costs of making those improvements.

42. We support the inclusion of all critical infrastructure as shown in the following diagram:

Figure 1: Critical infrastructure can take many forms, including (but not limited to):



43. We agree that there is a need for critical infrastructure providers to work more closely with Emergency Management to ensure a greater understanding of the risks around our critical infrastructure and how these can be better managed in future. Shared understanding is important to enabling more efficient and effective solutions, better coordination, joint funding solutions and enabling the ‘best bang for buck’ while protecting, maintaining and developing the critical infrastructure that enables our way of life.

44. We are seeing the impacts of climate change in larger, more severe and more frequent storm events in New Zealand and across the globe. We strongly support efforts to advance this work.

Other Comments

45. This part of our submission addresses the following matters:

- a. Enabling equitable outcomes (Clause 76)
- b. Improving operational effectiveness (Clause 93 and Schedule 2(5))
- c. Updating the legal and regulatory framework (various clauses)

46. We support these provisions in the Bill. They clearly contribute practical improvements to ensure the emergency management system can meet current and future needs.

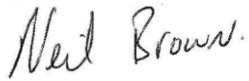
New rule making powers

47. We support the responsiveness and flexibility that new rule-making powers will bring. We also support the idea of safeguards to ensure that the new powers do not exceed the mandate in

the Act for decisions by the Chief Executive of NEMA. Some consultation mechanism should be part of normal rule-making process.

48. Thank you for the opportunity to submit on this Bill. Council does not wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Kā mihi nui,



Neil Brown
Mayor



Hamish Riach
Chief Executive

DRAFT 3

7. Mayfield Reserve Board – Mower Shed Funding

Author *Toni Durham: GM Democracy & Engagement*
Executive Team Member *Hamish Riach; Chief Executive*

Summary

- The purpose of this report is for Council to approve the funding for the construction of a new mower and equipment shed at the Mayfield Reserve that was inadvertently left out of the Annual Plan 2023/24.
- This was a programmed project in the Long Term Plan 2021-31 for Year 3.

Recommendation

- 1. That** Council approves \$58,000 in capital expenditure for the construction of a mower and equipment shed on the Mayfield Reserve.
- 2. That** the funding be loan-funded over a 20-year period from the Rural Amenity targeted rate.

Background

The current situation

1. The Mayfield Reserve Board need new equipment and a mower shed as the current one is coming to the end of its useful life.
2. The project was proposed and included in year 3 of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.
3. However, when the 2023/24 Annual Plan budgets were being prepared late last year, staff at the time missed including this and the error has only just been found.
4. The Mayfield Reserve Board are at the stage of site finalisation with the project and have met with the Open Spaces Manager and Community Liaison Officer to discuss options.

Options analysis

Option one – That Council approves the funding of \$58,000 (recommended)

5. This is the preferred option and would see Council enable the Mayfield Reserve Board to continue with their project.

Advantages: The project will proceed in the timeframe that the Mayfield Reserve Board, and Council of the day, agreed to.	Disadvantages: Unplanned for expenditure from the 2023/24 Annual Plan.
Risks: Potential for ad-hoc requests to become the norm outside of usual budgeting processes.	

Option two – That Council does not approve the funding and that the project is considered as part of the Long-Term Plan 2024-34.

6. This would see the project stop in 2023/24 and a request will be made to year 1 of the Long Term Plan 2024-34.

Advantages: No unplanned expenditure from the 2023/24 Annual Plan. Would allow Council the opportunity to consider the project alongside all other funding requests for the LTP.	Disadvantages: The project will stop for the year and the Reserve Board will need to wait until budget is approved. Existing shed at the end of its useful life therefore risk to shed and equipment contained within it.
Risks: Significant reputational risk to Council with the volunteers involved with the Mayfield Reserve Board, who maintain the reserve on Council's behalf.	

Legal/policy implications

Long Term Plan 2021-31

7. The LTP 21-31 included the project in year 3 as part of the capital works programme (volume 1, page 114).

Climate change

8. Climate change has minimal impact on this decision.

Strategic alignment

9. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcome of 'A District of Great Spaces and Places'.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic		
Environmental		
Cultural		
Social	✓	Reserves provide recreational opportunities for local communities.

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	\$58,000
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Budget was included in the LTP 2021-31 but was missed from the Annual Plan 2023/24 due to human error.
Where is the funding coming from?	Rural Reserve Board are funded through the Rural Amenity Rate.
Are there any future budget implications?	Yes – the repayment of the loan, interest cost and depreciation will hit the rural amenity rate.
Reviewed by Finance	Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager – Business Support

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low
Rationale for selecting level of significance	N/A
Level of engagement selected	1. Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	The project was consulted with the community through the Long Term Plan 2021-31 process and was approved by Council. The report is seeking to address an administrative error that occurred during the budget development late last year.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low; Strategy and Policy Manager

8. *Glow in the Park*

Author	<i>Sarah Davidson, Events Advisor</i>
Activity Manager	<i>Simon Worthington, Economic Development Manager</i>
Executive Team Member	<i>Jane Donaldson, Group Manager – Compliance & Development</i>

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to recommend that the “GLOW in the Park” event be moved from the Tinwald Domain and Plains Museum site to the Ashburton Domain.

Recommendation

1. **That** Council’s “Glow in the Park” event be relocated to the Ashburton Domain.

Background

The current situation

1. “Glow in the Park” is an illuminated light show that is designed and managed by Council’s Events Team.
2. The first Glow in the Park was planned for 2021, to be held at the Ashburton Domain. However the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic led to its cancellation. One year later, the event was held at the Tinwald Domain. The change of venue was because numbers attending could be more easily controlled via entry points to the Tinwald Domain, thereby ensuring compliance with Covid restrictions. As it turned out, restrictions were eased prior to the event and this was no longer an issue. The event has run for two years now, both years at the Tinwald Domain & Plains Museum sites together, and both over three nights.
3. In 2022 the event ran from 22- 24 July; however in order to allow for a large winter event in Methven in August, the date was moved forward to King’s Birthday Weekend 2-4 June, thus spreading events out across the district’s annual events diary.
4. The event was initially developed to help celebrate EA Networks 100 year celebration. EA Networks paid for the whole event in 2022; they also received \$10,000 of funding from the Regional Event Fund.
5. The inaugural Glow in the Park proved popular across all ages, delighting children and families as well as those young at heart. A strong interest from the community saw a turnout that far exceeded expectations. Approximately 10,000 people attended over the three evenings with around 5,000 people through the gates on Saturday alone.
6. Attendance for this year’s 2023 event saw a 70% increase on the inaugural event. A total of over 17,000 people attended the event. Friday saw 7,000 people attend, then Saturday night alone was 10,000 people, and Sunday was cancelled due to weather. Had this Sunday night not been cancelled officers estimate that potentially another 6,000 – 7,000 people would have attended.
7. Such a huge increase in people attending this free public event requires a rethink on the current event format to ensure public safety (both whilst getting to and from the event, and whilst at the event), sustainability, and viability into the future. The event moving forward will need another dozen volunteers per night, and a higher level of event management in terms of infrastructure, i.e. more toilets, more vendors, more parking etc and an increased operational budget.
8. This event requires funding over and above Council’s budget of \$15,000 to be successful, as it costs a minimum of \$60,000 and could go as high as \$100,000 depending on the design and offering of the event. With EA Networks no longer paying for all the costs associated with this event, officers developed a Sponsorship Pack this year to present to

local businesses. Through this process of onboarding sponsorship, a total of \$47,000 of funding came from our business community.

9. The challenges with the Tinwald Domain site include the large number of user groups to be accommodated, with not all wishing to be involved in this event. The traffic management of attendees is also challenging. The survey feedback on “*What would you like to see improved or added*” had complaints about the gridlocking of traffic both in the CBD and all the way out to the Tinwald Domain being the most common thread by far.
10. The Tinwald Reserve Board has been asked for comment. The Chair has expressed a strong preference for the event to remain there. It has better car parking than the Ashburton Domain, and received positive comments from attendees about the venue and the opportunity to visit Tinwald. It was a friendly and relaxed crowd enjoying the ambience, and it would be a shame if that could not be continued.

Options analysis

Option one – Tinwald Domain & Plains Museum sites together - ‘Status Quo’

11. Continue to hold “GLOW in the Park” at the Tinwald location across the Tinwald Domain and Plains Museum sites.

<p>Advantages:</p> <p>Event history in this location means lessons learnt can be addressed and tweaked rather than starting from scratch.</p> <p>Many in- built power locations across the site. Thus less generators are needed, which means less background noise as generators can be quite noisy and distract from the ambience of the event.</p> <p>Lots of buildings to light up which means less infrastructure needs to be created. Existing buildings are also cost effective to light with fairy lights.</p> <p>A large off street carparking area next to the event location means less people parking on the road and creates an area that is easier to control and manage with volunteers.</p> <p>Promotes a domain in our area that isn’t always “top of mind” for both residents and out of town visitors; thus exposing this district asset to a large group of people who wouldn’t normally visit this location. It is a more resilient facility than the Ashburton Domain if it is damaged.</p>	<p>Disadvantages:</p> <p>Traffic travelling to the Tinwald location essentially blocks up traffic across the Ashburton township which causes delays to attendees and also for people in the township that are not attending the event.</p> <p>Getting close to capacity numbers that this venue can comfortably hold, thus limiting the numbers that can attend this event may become necessary. If this was to occur it would increase the operational costs as we would need to ensure the event was both ticketed and fenced to help control attendance numbers.</p> <p>There are many different user groups that have club/buildings in this location, and they need to be accommodated and considered as part of both the pre- event planning and also during the event set up and deconstruction. This could be mitigated to some extent if it was managed by the Plains Museum Trust..</p>
<p>Risks:</p>	

Option two – Ashburton Domain – Recommended Option

12. Hold “GLOW in the Park” in the Ashburton Domain. It is more centrally located, has multiple access points, provides better traffic circulation and has room for growth.

<p>Advantages:</p> <p>Less people travelling over the bridge to attend the event, thus potentially less traffic backing up through town.</p> <p>Central location will allow for more people to bike and walk to the event.</p> <p>2024 is the 160 year celebration of the Ashburton Domain, so it would be a nice fit to hold this large event in this location.</p> <p>Attendees would have multiple entry points to the event, thus car parking can be spread across many streets around the domain.</p> <p>Approximately 100 car parks may be available on the old tennis courts at Grigg Street. The car parks inside the Domain next to the playground would be reserved for food trucks and stalls.</p> <p>There is room to expand and grow the event in this location, as the footprint of the domain is larger than the current Tinwald location.</p> <p>There are less user groups that need to be accommodated for in this location.</p>	<p>Disadvantages:</p> <p>No large carparking site next to the domain, thus all surrounding streets will be busy and may potentially upset local residents. The car park at EANC could possibly be used in conjunction with a shuttle bus to and from the Domain.</p> <p>Larger traffic management costs, and Waka Kotahi sign- off required as attendees will likely park on the state highway, and large volumes of people will be walking in and around this area as well.</p> <p>Potentially higher security risk when setting up the event, as not easy to restrict entry to the public during set up and harder to monitor installations overnight.</p> <p>Need to manage multiple entry points, and thus many people will miss the official “start” point as they won’t want to walk to this point, thus changing the way people take in and experience the event.</p> <p>Less built- in power points, thus generators will be required, which are noisier and come at an additional cost.</p> <p>Less buildings than Tinwald to light up, which may result in higher costs to set up infrastructure to light up.</p>
<p>Risks:</p> <p>Public may be upset that this event is not at Tinwald. Based on the recent discussions around the Tinwald Domain pool, they may feel that it is another thing removed from Tinwald.</p> <p>Attendees may not respect the hospital car parking rules, and with all the traffic in the area it may create issues for the hospital in terms of access and parking for both staff and ambulance.</p>	

Legal/policy implications

Review of legal / policy implications	
Reviewed by In-house Counsel	Not required

Strategic alignment

13. The recommendation relates to Council’s community outcome of “A district of great spaces and places” because this event is free to attend and caters for a wide range of age groups in our community.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	Utilises several local suppliers to service the running of the event Large scale event means an increased number of visitors to Ashburton.
Environmental		
Cultural	✓	Light events are an important part of other cultures and opportunities exist for other cultures to be represented as part of Ashburton’s community.
Social	✓	A free event that allows all residents to partake in the festivities and celebrate together as community

Financial Implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	Approx \$75,000 for 2024
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	No
Where is the funding coming from?	Relies on securing approximately \$50,000 - \$65,000 of community funding, and \$10,000 - \$15,000 of Economic Development Event funding
Are there any future budget implications?	Yes if funding not secured it will wipe out the Events budget for the year.
Reviewed by Finance	Leanne Macdonald, Group Manager Business Support

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Medium
Rationale for selecting level of significance	N/A
Level of engagement selected	Inform

Rationale for selecting level of engagement	While there are some good reasons for considering a move of the event from its current location, this will cause some disruption in a different part of town, which local residents may not appreciate. Decision of Council that will be communicated to the public
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Mark Low; Strategy and Policy Manager

Appendix one – significance and engagement assessment tool

Criteria	Assessment
Strategic assets	Low
Impact on the community	Med
Community interest	Med
Impact on Te Rūnanga o Arowhenua	Low
Financial cost	Low
Levels of service	Low
Overall risk	Low
Total HIGH	
Total MEDIUM	2
Total LOW	5
Overall level of significance	<i>Low</i>
SIGNIFICANT?	<i>No</i>

9. Services Provided over Christmas and New Year 2023-24

Author *Katie Perry, People & Capability Manager*
Executive Manager responsible *Sarah Mosley, GM People & Facilities*

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to inform elected and community members of the services provided by Council over the Christmas - New Year period.
- The Executive team has confirmed the dates and hours of operation over this period. In doing so, they take into account both the demands on our services at this time of year and the mutual benefit to Council and its employees in taking Annual Leave over this period to spend with family and friends.
- All phone calls to Council continue to be answered by our service provider (Palmerston North City Council Answering Service - PNCC), who then forward urgent matters onto assigned/on-call employees. No concerns have ever been raised about reducing our hours of operation/capacity over this period.
- Custom and practice in regards to public holiday operations and when facilities close and reopen, remains similar to previous years. However, within Te Whare Whakatere, the custom and practice of the Library and Civic Services activities will continue.

Recommendation

- 1. That** Council receives 2023-24 services provided over Christmas- New Year report.

Attachment

Appendix 1: Table of operating hours

Background

Previous Council decisions

1. Management's processes and measures to manage customer demands over this period have been well tried and tested over many years. Accordingly, this report has always been received by Council.

Interested and affected parties

2. The decision for reduced hours over the Christmas - New Year period follows custom and practice, and adheres to contractual and legislative provisions.
3. Operating reduced services over the Christmas – New Year period is very similar to the approach most other councils follow nationwide. However, some councils 'gift' the three days between Christmas and New Year in addition to an employee's annual leave. Our Council does not currently do this, however we do 'gift' early finishes, and acknowledge standard finishes for full time employees on the facilities/their 'last' day.

Details

4. The Library will operate as per the new operating hours leading up to Christmas (6pm close on Friday 22 and 4pm close on Saturday 23 & Sunday 24 December). It will be closed on public holidays, have slightly shorter hours (8.30am to 5.30pm) on 27, 28, 29 December, 10-4pm 30, 31 December (normal weekend hours) and recommence normal hours Wednesday 3 January 2024.
5. Civic Services will close at 1pm on Friday 22 December, with services commencing 8.30am on Wednesday 3 January 2024.
6. The Art Gallery & Museum will operate their normal hours (10am -4pm) throughout the Christmas and New Year period, with the exception of being closed on 25 & 26 December, and it will close at 4pm on Wednesday 27 December (instead of 7pm).
7. Open Spaces will operate as normal with the exception of a 1pm close 23 December. Employees in core cleaning roles will continue to perform their duties every day, with other team members either electing to take annual leave or working on 27-29 December. The Open Spaces depot will be closed as normal during the weekends and on all public holidays. Full operations will recommence 3 January 2024.
8. The EA Networks Centre will close early (3pm) on Sunday 24 & 31 December and will have reduced hours (10am – 5pm) on 27, 28, 29, 30 December. The facility will be closed on public holidays and normal hours for the whole facility will resume on 3 January 2024.
9. Mt Hutt Memorial Hall will be closed on public holidays and work reduced hours of 10am to 2pm on all other days from 22 to 31 December 2023, returning to normal hours 3 January 2024.

Legal/policy implications

Legislation and contractual obligations

10. Given the changes in the days and hours of operation across Council, employees affected by a closedown have traditionally been provided with notice well in excess of legislative requirements ([s32 Holidays Act](#)).
11. All employment agreements contain provisions about closedowns (where appropriate), and public holiday entitlements (if an employee is required to work, be on-call or receives a day of leave as per the Holiday's Act).

Climate change

12. There are no direct impacts on climate change from adopting this report.

Strategic alignment

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	Often the costs of operating on a public holiday outweigh the benefits, with low visitation.
Environmental		
Cultural	✓	Significant time of year for the majority of our community.
Social	✓	Employees are provided an opportunity to take leave and spend time with their family and friends.

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	Council will gift the difference between the normal and reduced operating hours (early finishes) and provide the equivalent time off to full time employees who work standard hours, subject to them not taking leave on their last normal day of work prior to Christmas. Benefits of operating reduced hours &/or staffing levels, closedown period(s) and early finishes, reduce Council's operating costs, Council's leave liability and show goodwill to staff for the year.
Is there budget available in LTP/AP?	Operating budgets take into account the financial requirements of this period.
Where is the funding coming from?	Operating budgets.
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Finance review	Yes or No <if No, provide brief explanation>

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low
Level of engagement selected	1. Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	Council will communicate our operating hours over the Christmas – New Year period in the coming weeks to our community via various mediums.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Toni Durham: GM Democracy & Engagement

APPENDIX 1:

2023/2024	EA Networks Centre	Art Gallery & Museum	Te Whare Whakarete		Mt Hutt Memorial Hall	Open Spaces
			Library	Civic Services		
Friday 22 December	7pm Pool Close 8pm Gym Close 9pm Stadium Close (Normal hours)	10am to 4pm	8.30am to 6pm	1pm Close	10am to 2pm	1pm Close
Saturday 23 December	5pm Pool Close 6pm Gym Close 7pm Stadium Close (Normal hours)	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm	-	10am to 2pm	-
Sunday 24 December	7am-3pm	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm	-	10am to 2pm	-
Monday 25 December PUBLIC HOLIDAY	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tuesday 26 December PUBLIC HOLIDAY	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Wednesday 27 December	10am-5pm	10am to 4pm	8.30am to 5pm	CLOSED	10am to 2pm	7.30-4.15
Thursday 28 December	10am-5pm	10am to 4pm	8.30am to 5pm	CLOSED	10am to 2pm	7.30-4.15
Friday 29 December	10am-5pm	10am to 4pm	8.30am to 5pm	CLOSED	10am to 2pm	7.30-4.15

Saturday 30 December	10am-5pm	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm	-	10am to 2pm	-
Sunday 31 December	10am-3pm	10am to 4pm	10am to 4pm	-	10am to 2pm	-
Monday 1 January 2024 PUBLIC HOLIDAY	CLOSED	10am to 4pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tuesday 2 January 2024 PUBLIC HOLIDAY	CLOSED	10am to 4pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Wednesday 3 January 2024	Normal hours resume					

10. Ashburton Car Club - Scott's Shingle Sprint – temporary road closure

Author	<i>Mark Smith; Corridor Manager-Roading</i>
Activity Manager	<i>Mark Chamberlain; Roading Manager</i>
Executive Team Member	<i>Neil McCann; Group Manager – Infrastructure Services</i>

Summary

- This report considers an application from the Ashburton Car Club for temporary road closures of sections of Le Bretons Road - Christys Road - Denshires Road - Chertsey Road on 19 November 2023 to hold the Scotts Shingle Sprint.
- The Ashburton Car Club has run car racing events safely and successfully for over 18 years. Their events are well organised and every precaution is taken by the organisers to ensure that the highest levels of safety are maintained. Their events are highly supported by the local community and are a valued attraction to the District.
- Council is not obliged to approve any road closures. Our practice has been to approve such requests, subject to being confident that the event organisers can manage the event safely, and that the road will be restored to pre-race condition.
- Objections closed at 4.00 pm Friday on 20 October 2023 and Council will be updated if any objections are received. The recommendation is made on the premise that no objections are received by 20 October 2023.

Recommendation

- 1. That** Council permits the following road to be closed from 8.00 am Sunday 19 November 2023 until 5.30 pm the same day to allow the Scott's Shingle Sprint to be held:
 - From the intersection of Le Bretons Road and Christys Road
 - From the intersection of Le Bretons Road and Denshires Road
 - From the intersection of Le Bretons Road to Chertsey Road 2km of it

Attachment

Appendix 1 Map and overview of road closure

Background

1. The Ashburton Car Club has applied to Council for temporary road closure to allow it to hold the Scott's Shingle Sprint.
2. This event has been advertised with a period of time for objections to be submitted.
3. No objections have currently been received with the objections period closing on 20 October 2023.
4. The required insurance and traffic management plan have been received.
5. This application must be considered by Council under clause 11(e) of the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974, because New Zealand Motorsport, of which the Ashburton Car Club is a member, requires roads to be closed for motorsport events under the Local Government Act, as event participants may be under 18 years of age.
6. On approval of the Road Closure, the Safety Management Plan will be reviewed by staff.

The current situation

7. The Ashburton Car Club has applied for a road closure at Le Bretons Road/Christys Road/Denshires Road/ Chertsey Road 2km of it, to hold the Scotts Shingle Sprint on 19 November 2023. The event will be held from 8.00 am to 5.30 pm. The affected length of the sections of road please see the attached diagram of the road closure (Appendix 1).

Options analysis

Option one – Approve Road Closure (Recommended)

8. Our practice has been to approve such requests, subject to being confident that the event organisers can manage the event safely, and that the road will be restored to pre-race condition.
9. Ashburton Car Club has a strong record of safe and successful management of these events in the district for over 18 years.
10. The responsibility for risk-free operation lies with the organisers and all contingencies are covered in the conditions of closure.
11. The road condition will be inspected by Roading staff before and after the event. Staff are confident that the asset will be returned to its pre-existing condition after the event.
12. For these reasons, Officers recommend Option 1.

<p>Advantages: Well-run /well organised; these events have been held for a number of years without incident and are well supported by the local community.</p>	<p>Disadvantages: If an incident occurs this could prevent access to the road for a period of time.</p>
<p>Risks: Potential safety issues. Travel impact on residents, road users, spectators, and local businesses The impact on the condition of the gravel road. These risks are considered LOW overall as they can all be successfully managed.</p>	

Option two – Decline Road Closure

13. Not recommended by Officers

<p>Advantages: Any safety, travel delay or road condition impacts are avoided.</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Many people look forward to these types of events and they provide a positive attraction to the District</p>
<p>Risks: Reputational risk to Council to hold motorsport events within the District</p>	

Legal/policy implications

14. Clause 11 of the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974 provides –

“That Council may, subject to such conditions as it thinks fit... close any road or part of a road to all traffic (e)... for any exhibition, fair, market, concert, film making, race or other sporting event or public function.”

15. As noted previously, our practice is to enable these events to proceed subject to ensuring the safety of road users, residents, and spectators

Climate change

16. This decision has no climate change implications.

Review of legal / policy implications	
Reviewed by In-house Counsel	Tania Paddock; Legal Counsel

Strategic alignment

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	Events attract visitors from outside the District.
Environmental		
Cultural		
Social	✓	Connect communities to enable business, leisure, and social activities (social, cultural wellbeing).

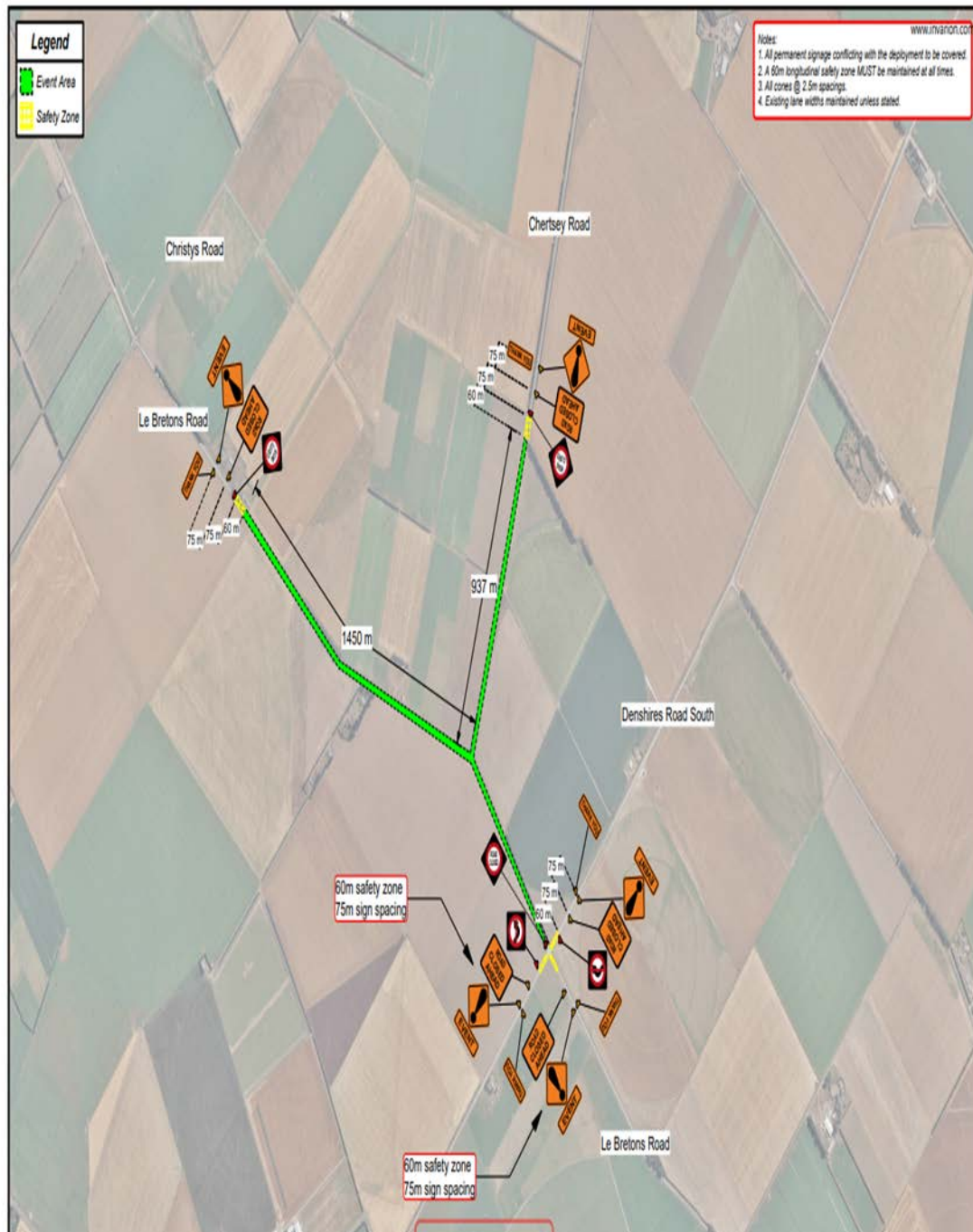
Financial implication

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	No costs incurred to the Council
Is there a budget available in LTP / AP?	N/A
Where is the funding coming from?	All costs associated with this event are being paid by the organisers (Ashburton Car Club)
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Reviewed by Finance	Erin Register; Finance Manager.

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Medium
Rationale for selecting level of significance	N/A
Level of engagement selected	Level 3 – Consult. Council must advertise the closure and consider objections if any are received.
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	This level of engagement is required to meet statutory requirements.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Toni Durham: GM Democracy & Engagement

Appendix 1 Map and overview of road closure



11. Affordable Water Reform - Update

Author *Toni Durham: GM Democracy & Engagement*
Executive Team Member *Hamish Riach: Chief Executive*

Summary

- The purpose of this update is to give Council advice on uplifting the Affordable Water Reform matter that was left to lie on the table from the 25 July 2023 meeting.
- The matter relates to Council deciding it's preferred start date for Entity I under the current Water Services Entities Act.
- Council held off deciding a preferred start date to await the outcome of the government elections on the 14 October 2023.
- With the change in government following the election to a National-led coalition, the Affordable Water Reform legislation (in particular the Water Services Entities Act) has been pledged to be over-turned within the first 100 days of government as one of their key policy positions.
- Given this, officers have proposed the following recommendations to uplift the matter from the table.

Recommendations

- 1. That** Council uplifts the Affordable Water Reform matter that was left to lie on the table at the 25 July 2023 Council meeting.
- 2. That** Council does not identify a preferred date to join Entity I given the new National-led government that is being formed and their policy to over-turn the affordable water reform within the first 100 days of government.

Attachment

Appendix 1 Copy of Council report 25/07/23 – Affordable Water Reform

11. *Affordable Water Reform*

Author *Toni Durham: GM Democracy & Engagement*
Executive Team Member *Hamish Riach; Chief Executive*

Summary

- The purpose of this report is for Council to consider it's 'Go-Live' Timing preference for when Council would transition to Entity I: Canterbury / West Coast water entity
- The National Transition Unit is seeking feedback on when Council's would like to join the water entity as currently proposed in the Water Services Amendment Bill.

Recommendation(s)

1. **That** Council supports the establishment of Entity I: Canterbury / West Coast on 1 April 2025.

Background

The current situation

1. On 5 July 2023, members of the National Transition Unit (NTU) held a roadshow in Christchurch to update council executives on the latest water reform developments.
2. In addition to providing an update, the NTU canvassed how best to obtain feedback from Councils on their preferred go live date for the Canterbury/West Coast region.
3. It was agreed at the meeting that the National Transition Unit should write to each Council seeking their views on a preferred entity go live date.
4. In particular, the NTU is seeking a response to the following questions:
 - When would your Council ideally wish entity I to go live?
 - Are there reasons you would like to share as to why your Council favours a specific go live date?
 - Is there more than one go live date that your council feels could accommodate their needs?

Previous Council Decisions

5. Council has been opposed to three waters reform proposals and bills since the start. For context and the basis of this opposition, Council's most recent submission on the Water Services Amendment Bill can be found [here](#).
6. While this submission indicated a 1 July date would be preferable, advice received by Canterbury Chief Executives indicates that transitioning mid-way through year 1 of the Long-Term Plan may mean that the LTP can be prepared without three waters included. This would make for a more transparent Long-Term Plan 2024 – 34 and would remove the duplication of work in amending the LTP when three waters is no longer provided by Council.

Options analysis

7. Officers are cognisant of Council's elected members views to date opposing the water reform.
8. However, in preparing this report, officers have taken the view that should the water reform in its current form proceed as the legislation prescribes it, as an organisation we will need to be ready to meet these legislative obligations.
9. Therefore, the context of this report is based on the continued trajectory of the Affordable Water Reform, post the central government elections in October 2023.

**Option one – Council supports an Entity I establishment date of 1 April 2025
(recommended option)**

- 10. This option would see Council support the establishment of Entity I: Canterbury / West Coast on 1 April 2025.
- 11. This option would provide our directly affected staff certainty around transition to the new entity in what has been an already protracted process.
- 12. Under the Water Services Amendment Bill (Amendment Bill) as it currently stands, it appears that this would mean that Council would not include three waters activities into the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034. This would not be confirmed until the Amendment Bill is passed.

<p>Advantages: Affected Council staff would have certainty around transition to the new entity at the earliest time possible</p> <p>Council would not include three waters into the Long-Term Plan 24-34</p>	<p>Disadvantages: Transitioning mid-way through a financial year may create additional complications for financial / rating systems</p>
<p>Risks: Transitioning during a financial year may create unintended consequences which officers are unaware of.</p>	

Option two – Council supports an Entity I establishment date of 1 July 2025

- 13. This option would see Council support the establishment of Entity I: Canterbury / West Coast on 1 July 2025.
- 14. This option would mean our directly affected staff have an additional wait until transitioning to the new entity, prolonging an already protracted process.
- 15. Under the Water Services Amendment Bill (Amendment Bill) as it currently stands, it appears that this would mean that Council would include three waters activities into the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 for year 1 only. This would not be confirmed until the Amendment Bill is passed.

<p>Advantages:</p> <p>Council has longer managing and operating three waters services for the community</p>	<p>Disadvantages:</p> <p>Affected staff would have a longer transition period to the new entity</p> <p>Council would include three waters in year 1 of the LTP 24-34</p>
<p>Risks:</p> <p>Our people would have a longer wait to transition to the new entity, which is potentially more disruptive for them professionally and personally</p>	

Option three – Council supports an Entity I establishment date of 1 July 2026

16. This option would see Council support the establishment of Entity I: Canterbury / West Coast on 1 July 2026.
17. This option would mean our directly affected staff have an additional wait until transitioning to the new entity, prolonging an already protracted process.
18. Under the Water Services Amendment Bill (Amendment Bill) as it currently stands, it appears that this would mean that Council would include three waters activities into the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 for year 1 and 2 only. This would not be confirmed until the Amendment Bill is passed.

<p>Advantages:</p> <p>Council manages and operates three waters services for the community right until the legislation takes effect</p> <p>Implications of the loss of three waters would not be applied until Year 3 of the LTP?</p>	<p>Disadvantages:</p> <p>Affected staff would have a substantially longer transition period to the new entity than option 1 or 2</p> <p>Council would include three waters into years 1 and 2 of the LTP 24-34</p>
<p>Risks:</p> <p>Our people would have a longer wait to transition to the new entity, which is potentially more disruptive for them professionally and personally</p>	

Legal/policy implications

Water Services Amendment Bill 2023

19. The Water Services Entities Amendment Bill gives effect to Cabinet decisions on the water services reforms made in April and May 2023. The Bill forms part of the legislation that will reform the delivery of New Zealand’s drinking water, wastewater and stormwater services.

20. The Bill includes changes to the Water Services Entities Act 2022. Key changes include:

- Establishing 10 new water services entities based on existing regional boundaries
- A staggered approach to entity ‘go live’ dates, with all entities going live between 1 July 2024 and 1 July 2026
- Confirming the Northland and Auckland Water Services Entity will go live on 1 July 2024
- Providing for every territorial authority to be represented on the regional representative group of their entity, together with an equal number of mana whenua representatives
- Introducing ‘Community Priority Statements’, which can be presented to regional representative groups by persons that have an interest in water bodies within the entity area
- A process to enable locally led, voluntary mergers of two or more entities
- Entity financing arrangements, including provision for a dedicated Water Services Funding Agency to be established as a backstop financing mechanism, if required
- Shared services arrangements, including a provision for the responsible Minister to direct entities where collaboration or a whole of sector approach is required
- Councils will continue to provide and fund water services during the extended establishment period for the entities, including transitional arrangements to be inserted in local government legislation to deal with long-term and annual planning, reporting, and rate setting obligations over this period

Climate change

21. The decision required in this report does not have any climate change implications.

Review of legal / policy implications

Reviewed by In-house Counsel	<i>Tania Paddock; Legal Counsel</i>
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Strategic alignment

22. The recommendation relates to Council’s community outcome of *A District of great spaces and places* and our guiding principle to *Represent the community on regional/national issues and partner with others when needed*.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	While a three waters entity is opposed by Council, should the entity be established it is expected to positively effect the economic and wellbeing of communities.
Environmental	✓	
Cultural		
Social		

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	Minimal cost supporting any of the recommendations
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes
Where is the funding coming from?	Within existing budgets
Are there any future budget implications?	Yes but these are the same regardless of which option Council prefers
Reviewed by Finance	Leanne MacDonald

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	Yes
Level of significance	High
Rationale for selecting level of significance (if different to assessment)	Not Applicable
Level of engagement selected	1. Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	The three water reform conversation has been well debated in national and local media over the past two years, with Council's position unchanged since the proposal was first announced. The decision to put forward a preferred Entity I date will be communicated to the community via the usual communication channels. If finally confirmed, this change is a result of government policy. The Water Services Entities Amendment Bill legislation removes the need for Councils to follow the decision-making and consultation requirements of the Local Government Act relating to the establishment of the water entities.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	<i>Mark Low; Strategic and Policy Manager</i>

12. Councillor Reports

Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan

12.1 Meetings

In addition to the usual Council meetings and workshops I have attended the following meetings and events:

September 2023

- 15 Sep: Mona Square – dawn blessing
- 18 Sep: Bike skills park working group
- 20 Sep: Methven Reserve Board
- 21 Sep: RDRML remuneration – via Zoom
- 22 Sep: Safe Communities steering group meeting
- 25 Sep: Safer Mid Canterbury office dawn blessing + Board meeting
- 26 Sep: Community Vehicle Trust meeting / CAB
- 28 Sep: Mid Canterbury Vision presentation – ECan / Mt Somers Citizen association AGM
- 29 Sep: Goldpine Ashburton opening

October 2023

- 6 Oct: Methven water treatment plant opening
- 7 Oct: Emergency Services Day - Methven
- 16 Oct: Methven Community Board / Bike skills park working group
- 17 Oct: Talk it up Tuesday – library / Rangitata Diversion Race Management Ltd AGM
- 19 Oct: Climate Change Action Planning Reference group – via Teams
- 20 Oct: Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Core group - Wellington
- 24 Oct: Volunteer Youth Awards
- 25 Oct: Foothills Catchment Group
- 27 Oct: Ashburton A&P Show – Safety Village
- 28 Oct: Meridian and Genesis Heads of Agreement – Arowhenua marae
- 30 Oct: Safer Mid Canterbury Board meeting / Industry Training Awards night

12.2 Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Core Group

The MTFJ Core group member met in Wellington for a full day strategy workshop. We met the new programme manager and programme advisor.

A new structure for the group was discussed and includes a governance group of five mayors and the core group which is all MTFJ members.

Another strategy workshop will be held soon.

12.3 Climate Change Action Planning Reference Group

The reference group met via Teams to get an update on the Action Plan. Most of the councils have endorsed the Plan. The Plan will now go to the Mayoral Forum.

ECan advised of engagement summits that will be held in conjunction with the “*Our Future, Canterbury*” campaign. They will be holding drop-in sessions as well as collecting views via a survey.

[Climate change / Te huringa āhuarangi | Have Your Say \(ecan.govt.nz\)](#)

It’s Time, Canterbury is looking for stories on the changing climate and encouraged councils to send something in.

[It’s time, Canterbury - join the conversation | Environment Canterbury \(ecan.govt.nz\)](#)

12.4 Bike Skills Park working group

The group are meeting monthly. Proposals from three designers were presented to the group - all with similar pricing. The service groups will advise us if they can help with the seed funding or just the project funding at the next meeting.

13. Mayor's Report

13.1 Meetings

- **Mayoral calendar**

October 2023

- 18 October: Advance Ashburton function
- 19 October: The Breeze Canterbury interview, live show from Rakaia
- 19 October: Mid Canterbury Rugby Union Awards night
- 24 October: James Meager, MP for Rangitata with Hamish Riach
- 25 October: Council Activity Briefings
- 25 October: Audit & Risk Committee meeting and workshop
- 26 October: Representation review
- 26 October: Future for Local Government workshop
- 26 October: Rates remission and postponement policies workshop
- 26 October: Presentation of Ashburton Art Gallery Christmas card winner
- 26 October: NZ Sheep Dog Trial Association – Trans Tasman test series official dinner
- 26 October: Ashburton College Year 13 graduation ceremony – Cr Hooper deputised
- 27 October: Craig Carr with CE Hamish Riach
- 28 October: Ashburton A&P show
- 30 October: Eastfield Investment AGM
- 30 October: National Science Technology Roadshow
- 30 October: Mid Canterbury Rugby and A&P Association representatives with CE Hamish Riach
- 30 October: Industry Training Graduation evening
- 31 October: ASB Thought Leadership breakfast
- 31 October: Talk It Up Tuesday session at Library
- 31 October: Council meeting
- 31 October: Ashburton College Year 11 and 12 prizegiving

Recommendation

That Council receives the Mayor's report.

Neil Brown
Mayor